

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH LALOR PARK

Web Page: www.stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au
Parish Centre: 14 Wheeler Street, Lalor Park NSW 2147
Tel: 9672 4037

Parish Church: 10 Gardenia Grove, Lalor Park NSW 2147

PARISH BULLETIN

Email: admin@stbernadetteslalorpark.org.au
Parish Priest: Fr Clifford D'Souza msfs
Parish Deacon: Deacon Jerome Emmanuel
Parish Secretary: Mrs Bev Baxter
Sacramental Coordinator: Mrs Madge Miranda (Thursday/Friday)
Assistant Secretary: Chantal Weir (Wednesday)
Office Hours: Wednesday 9am-3.30pm, Thursday & Friday 9am to 4pm
Principal: Mrs Lisa Samojlowicz Tel: 8869 6400

We acknowledge the Darug people, the traditional custodians on whose land we worship



(Established 1961)

ST BERNADETTE'S PARISH VISION STATEMENT

The Parish of St Bernadette's strives to be a vibrant, active, Catholic community, that is welcoming and nurturing to all and celebrates being a people of God, with Christ as the model.

23rd Sunday, Ordinary Time - YEAR B September 8th 2024

Reflection for 23rd Sunday, Year B



In Need of God's Healing

Spending time with the deaf and the mute, makes us realise how precious the gifts of speech and hearing are. Unlike most of us, they are cut off completely from the world of sound and have no experience of the conversation of friends, the laughter of children and the joy of listening to music. While our sympathies are with the man who was deaf and mute, we regard him as one of the lucky ones, who met Jesus who cured him, gave him a break in life and made him like the rest of us. We take for granted our ability to hear and speak, but both gifts are meant for a purpose even greater than human communication. They are also our means of listening to God and speaking his word. This is something we should never forget. Hearing and speaking determine mostly on who we are as persons.

This is an occasion to express our concern and care for those lonely lives on the margins of society because of hearing and speech handicaps. The deaf mute in the gospel represents the whole human race. His plight is ours in so far as we refuse to listen to what God is saying to us and act upon it. Is it possible that we are like this man because of our refusal to give a listening ear to the lonely, the troubled, and the worried? How many times have we failed to utter a word of encouragement, of hope and thanks, or have kept a discreet silence when we should have spoken the truth? Then there are the problems we have in speaking to our partner or neighbours, because of a long-standing row or simply out of jealousy, envy or pride.

We all need the healing hand of Christ to make us hear and speak the message of God. Jesus is the one who can remove the deafness and dumbness from our being so that we can make full use of these faculties. What Jesus is saying is that the greatest tragedy is not to be born deaf and mute, but to have ears and fail to hear and to have the tongue and fail to speak. We are the deaf and the dumb who need to be brought to Jesus for his healing touch, which brings communication where there are silences, companionship where there is loneliness, and encouragement where there is despair.

Father Clifford D'Souza msfs

POPE'S INTENTION FOR SEPTEMBER

For the cry of the Earth

We pray that each one of us will hear and take to heart the cry of the Earth and of victims of natural disasters and climactic change, and that all will undertake to personally care for the world in which we live.

Entrance Antiphon:

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right;
Treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

First Reading: Isaiah 35:4-7

Then the ears of the deaf shall be opened and the tongues of
the dumb speak.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 145:7-10

Praise the Lord, my soul!

Second Reading: James 2:1-5

Has not God chosen the poor of the world to inherit the
kingdom?

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia!

Jesus preached the good news of the kingdom
And healed all who were sick.
Alleluia!

Communion Antiphon: Cf Psalm 41:2-3

Like the deer that yearns for running streams,
So my soul is yearning for you, my God;
My soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

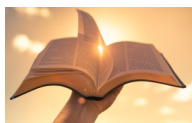
GOSPEL Mark 7:31-37

Again Jesus left the district of Tyre
and went by way of Sidon to the Sea of Galilee,
into the district of the Decapolis.

And people brought to him a deaf man who had a speech
impediment and begged him to lay his hand on him.
He took him off by himself away from the crowd.
He put his finger into the man's ears and, spitting,
touched his tongue;
then he looked up to heaven and groaned, and said to him,
"Ephphatha!"— that is, "Be opened!" —
And immediately the man's ears were opened,
his speech impediment was removed,
and he spoke plainly.

He ordered them not to tell anyone.
But the more he ordered them not to,
the more they proclaimed it.

They were exceedingly astonished and they said,
"He has done all things well.
He makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."



*** VINNIES PANTRY ***

During the month of September you are invited to
donate the following: **Any breakfast cereal,
porridge, a 1kg pkt sugar or 1L long life orange
juice.**

This enables St Vincent de Paul with their
assistance to the needy.

**We thank you for your continuing support and
generosity.**

COMMUNION PRAYER

Loving God,

We thank you for the gift of our children,
Who bring so much love and light to our lives.

We thank you for this opportunity
To think about how to help them grow in faith.

May we support one another as we journey
towards our children's First Holy Communion.

We make this prayer through Christ, our Lord

Amen



POSITIONS VACANT

- Development Manager – Property Services, Diocese of Parramatta.
 - Parish Secretary – Holy Name of Mary Parish, Rydalmere.
 - Lead Facilitator of Diocesan Plan Implementation – Diocese of Parramatta
 - **Applications close 25 September**
- More details at: parracatholic.org/about/jobs/

*** VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ***

We are in need of more volunteers in our Parish.
Readers, Altar servers, senior servers, cleaners. Are
you able to spare some time to help?

Please contact the parish office for more
information



THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA OFFICE OF SAFEGUARDING

If you or someone close to you has suffered any abuse by a representative of the Catholic Church (school, parish, other Catholic Groups) in Western Sydney and the Blue Mountains we invite you to contact us. Our professional staff will listen to your experience, respect your confidentiality and discuss all available options. Phone (02) 9933 0233. Web: safeguarding@parra.catholic.org.au. For any complaints that may relate to criminal conduct we encourage you to contact NSW Police on 1800 333 000.

FEAST DAYS THIS WEEK

13th Sept St John Chrysostom
14th Sept The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

CHILD SAFE STANDARDS

Standard 4: Equity is upheld and diverse needs are taken into account

The Diocese of Parramatta upholds equity and takes into account diverse needs through:

- Its Commitment to an encounter of radical love, inclusiveness, and solidarity for all People.
- Supporting refugees and asylum seekers.
- The Safeguarding Council – Members are from diverse circumstances and backgrounds.
- Provision of financial assistance to those experiencing hardship
- Training for staff and volunteers on Elder Abuse Awareness, vulnerable adults and children, and domestic and family violence.
- Advocating for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, refugees, and asylum seekers.
- Recruitment practices which include principles of equity and diversity.
- Equal opportunities for staff, volunteers, gender equality, race, age, religion, marital/family status, sexual orientation, or disability

For more information on Diocesan Safeguarding go to <https://parracatholic.org/safeguarding> or phone 8838 3429.

BISHOP'S FATHERS DAY APPEAL supporting our retired priests

Let us show our thanks and appreciation for our priests' lifelong gifts of faithful service. They have dedicated their lives to guiding us spiritually and emotionally, often at great personal sacrifice. Your compassionate donation cares for our clergy's health and wellbeing during sickness and retirement. Please give generously to the Bishop's Fathers' Day Appeal at parracatholic.org/fathersdayappeal

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE OFFERINGS IN 2024

The Divine Retreat Centre in Somersby, NSW is hosting a variety of single-day and weekend residential retreats throughout 2024. For more information and bookings, please contact (02) 4372 1598 or email drcetreatreg@gmail.com to confirm attendance. Visit www.divineretreatcentre.org for more information.

SENIORS MEETING

The next seniors meeting will be held on Thursday 12th September, at 9.45am (in the parish hall). If you are going on the bus trip in October, please bring \$20 to this meeting. All are welcome



CONGRATULATIONS

Good luck and best wishes to Tim Hodge a former student of St Bernadette's and Patrician Brothers who is in Paris competing in the swimming team at the Paralympics 2024.

Good news to hear that Tim won a Gold Medal in the 200 Individual Medley and was also a member of the gold winning mixed relay team



WHAT WILL BE YOUR LEGACY?

A gift in your Will is an enduring way to give thanks to God and share your blessings beyond your lifetime. During *Include A Charity Week*, we invite you – after providing for your loved ones – to consider a gift in your Will to our parish or a Catholic ministry in our Diocese.

Legacy gifts advance Christian works of faith, hope, and charity for future generations. **For information on remembering our Church in your Will:** parracatholic.org/giftsinWills

RECONCILIATION

Parents who wish to present their children for Reconciliation, should contact the parish office as soon as possible. Your child should be Baptised and in year 3 or higher (8 years or older). Preparation for Reconciliation will begin term 4. The Parent Only Meeting will be on October 31st, 9.15am or 7.30pm
Madge Miranda
Sacramental Coordinator.

PARISH PRIVACY POLICY

Following proclamation of the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth) at the end of 2001, the parish has reviewed its records and methods for holding and collecting information about parishioners. A Privacy Policy has been developed and approved by the Parish Priest and Parish Pastoral Council, in accordance with Diocesan norms, and a copy can be obtained from the Parish Centre during office hours.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE ON 2024

Getting married in 2024? Let the Diocese of Parramatta help you prepare.
 Visit www.parracatholic.org/celebrate/marriage/marriage-preparation to view weekend course dates in the New Year, to book and pay.
 An online preparation called *SmartLoving* can also be booked via the website. For more information, email marriage@parracatholic.org or call Marisa on 0412 280 017.

Launch of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church

On Saturday 10 August, the Diocese of Parramatta launched the Diocesan Pastoral Plan for a Synodal Church. Our pastoral plan represents the culmination of our Synod journey, where we have come together to listen, discern, and envision a path forward for our diocese over the past 16 months.

To download a copy of the Diocesan Pastoral Plan, visit parracatholic.org/synodality

MASS TIMES AND PARISH LITURGIES

Saturday Vigil 6.00pm,
 Sunday 8.30am & 10.00am

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturday @ 9.15am
 (Rosary and Exposition before Mass @ 8.30am)
 Wednesday evening @ 7:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 9.45-10.15am
 5.00 - 5.30pm

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 8.30am - 9.15am
 Wednesday 6.30pm

BAPTISMS

At 11.30am by appointment only (Sundays).
 A Preparation Evening will be held before the Baptism for parents and godparents.
 This will be 7.30pm in the Parish Centre, on the 4th Tuesday of the month.

MARRIAGES & FUNERALS

By Appointment - Please contact the Parish Office for details.

For sick parishioners, relatives and friends.

David Smythe, Catrina McGhee, Melanie Sant, Sarah Davenport, Maria Mihic, Maureen Wood, Dean McDonald, Judy Phillips, Thelma Islip, Jim Buckley, Wendy Hord, Sam Cassar, Rachel Surdich, Mabel Green, Tycho Walsh, Jom & Andrew Cadman, Nathan Weaver, Paul Tonissoo, Julie Daly,

For our recently deceased brothers and sisters: Nita Newham, Bishop Kevin Manning.

Deceased: Vicente Gallegos, Francis Vassallo, Anka-Pero Pejasinovic, Alois Mihic, Nirvana Zec, Mira Zec, Laura Vecchiet, Lino Delulia, Maria Micelotta, Elipidia Morcilla Lauzon, Ailsia & Bruce McDonald, Joan & Stanley Bartle, Garrick Family.
 Deceased members & benefactors of the St Vincent de Paul Society.

Anniversary: Domenico Zec, Antonia & Dinka Desanti & Family

We pray for all those from St Bernadette's who are sick, or have died.
 May all the souls of the faithful departed, rest in peace and rise in glory.



ROSTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time 14th / 15th Sept, 2024

Ministry	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Altar Servers	Arielle Lucie Flora		Cate Zara Madeline
Minister at the Altar	Francis Sultana	Alexander de Vega	Reymund Rillera
Minister of the Word	Tina Uri © 1 Lissa Carter © 2 Bernadette Nolan ©	Matthew Kenyon © 1 Sue Gilmore © 2 ©	Jem Dalay © 1 Karina Marafioti © 2 Christel Martin ©
Eucharistic Minister	Anne Simpson	Helen Gonzalez	Sarah Key
Welcomer	Bridget	Louise Bruni	Cindy Astillo
Music	Couples for Christ	CD's Sue Gilmore	CD's Eva Narajos
Flowers	Vicky Sant		
Counters	Ray R, Mark M		
Projector Operator			
Church Cleaners	Sue Gilmore, Saydie Chakty		

